

ON A NEW MARINE BIVALVE SHELL, *HEMIDONAX CHAPMANI*, SP. NOV.

BY J. H. GATLIFF AND C. J. GABRIEL.

*(Read before the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, 9th April, 1923.)**HEMIDONAX CHAPMANI*, sp. nov.

Shell solid. Ovate triangular; inæquilateral; radiately striate, the striæ becoming stronger at the anterior angle, but towards the posterior end they gradually become broader and flatter, and are not continued beyond the rounded angle. Margin crenulate, and denticulate within on the ventral margin.

White, with discontinuous brown rays. Interior has usually, in adults, a large, triangular, purple blotch descending from the umboes.

*Dimensions of Type*.—Anterior-posterior diameter, 24 mm.; dorso-ventral, 15 mm.

*Habitat*.—San Remo, ocean beach, Victoria.

*Observations*.—We have collected very many valves of the above species, but only in one instance have we found a conjoined pair, and it is not half grown, and is uncoloured. Neither have we met with the shell in our numerous dredgings in Western Port.

It is the species listed by Pritchard and Gatliff as *Donax cardioides*, Lamärck. They followed the identification of Prof. Ralph Tate, and they received similar odd valves, much worn, that were obtained at Royston Head, Spencer's Gulf, South Australia.

In the *Victorian Naturalist*, vol. xxxi., page 83, we quoted this species as "being *H. australiense*, although it is much smaller, and might be considered distinct." Mr. Charles Hedley, F.L.S., has drawn our attention to the fact that it is distinct.

We have great pleasure in dedicating it to Mr. Frederick Chapman, A.L.S., palæontologist at the National Museum, who, in the various branches included in the science he studies, has done such excellent work respecting our marine mollusca of past ages.

The valves figured are not quite the same size; the measurements refer to the larger valve. The figures are enlarged.

Type in Mr. Gatliff's collection.

## BIRD NOTES.

Cuckoos.—Interest in the habits of Cuckoos has been deepened by the observations recorded in "The Cuckoo's Secret" and the photographs that illustrate this remarkable book. Mr. Edgar Chance, the author, an English ornithologist, is convinced that *Cuculus canorus*, the common Cuckoo of British